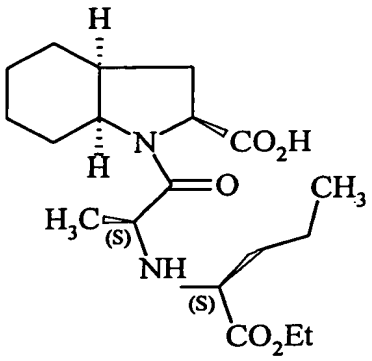
CLAIMS

1. γ crystalline form of the compound of formula (I) :



. $tBuNH_2$ (I),

characterised by the following powder X-ray diffraction diagram, measured using a diffractometer (copper anticathode) and expressed in terms of inter-planar distance d, Bragg's angle 2 theta, intensity and relative intensity (expressed as a percentage with respect to the most intense ray) :

Angle 2 theta (°)	Inter-planar distance d (Å)	Intensity	Relative intensity (%)
6.298	14.02	630	39.8
7.480	11.81	380	24
8.700	10.16	1584	100
9.276	9.53	318	20.1
10.564	8.37	526	33.2
11.801	7.49	54	3.4
12.699	6.96	86	5.4
13.661	6.48	178	11.2
14.095	6.28	163	10.3
14.332	6.17	290	18.3
14.961	5.92	161	10.2
15.793	5.61	128	8.1
16.212	5.46	179	11.3
16.945	5.23	80	5.1
17.291	5.12	92	5.8
17.825	4.97	420	26.5

18.100	4.90	159	10
18.715	4.74	89	5.6
19.017	4.66	118	7.4
19.362	4.58	134	8.5
19.837	4.47	133	8.4
20.609	4.31	95	6
21.232	4.18	257	16.2
21.499	4.13	229	14.5
21.840	4.07	127	8
22.129	4.01	191	12.1
22.639	3.92	137	8.6
23.000	3.86	88	5.6
23.798	3.74	147	9.3
24.170	3.68	70	4.4
25.066	3.55	167	10.5
25.394	3.50	165	10.4
26.034	3.42	84	5.3
26.586	3.35	75	4.7
27.541	3.24	74	4.7
28.330	3.15	85	5.4
29.589	3.02	96	6.1

2. Process for the preparation of the γ crystalline form of the compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, characterised in that a solution of perindopril tert-butylamine salt in chloroform is heated at reflux, the solution is then cooled to 0°C and the solid obtained is collected by filtration.

3. Process for the preparation of the γ crystalline form of the compound of formula (I) according to claim 1, characterised in that a solution of perindopril tert-butylamine salt in ethyl acetate is heated at reflux, the solution is rapidly cooled, the solid thereby obtained is then collected by filtration, it is suspended in chloroform, the suspension is stirred at ambient temperature for from 5 to 10 days, and the solid is then collected by filtration.

4. Process according to either claim 2 or claim 3, characterised in that the compound of formula (I) obtained by the preparation process described in patent specification EP 0 308 341 is used.

5. Process according to claim 2, characterised in that the concentration of the compound of formula (I) in the chloroform is from 150 to 300 g/litre.

6. Process according to claim 3, characterised in that the concentration of the compound of formula (I) in the ethyl acetate is from 70 to 90 g/litre.

7. Pharmaceutical composition comprising as active ingredient the compound according to claim 1, in combination with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable, inert, non-toxic carriers.

8. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 7 for use in the manufacture of medicaments for use as inhibitors of angiotensin I converting enzyme.

9. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 8 for use in the manufacture of medicaments for use in the treatment of cardiovascular diseases.

10. Pharmaceutical composition according to any one of claims 7 to 9, characterised in that it also comprises a diuretic.

11. Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 10, characterised in that the diuretic is indapamide.